

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS (MARROQUIN-MANRIQUEZ, HECTOR)

SUBJ : PRESS GUIDANCE: HECTOR MARROQUIN-MANRIQUEZ

1. FOLLOWING IS CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE ON POLITICAL
ASYLUM REQUEST BY HECTOR MARROQUIN-MANRIQUEZ. DEPART-
MENT'S VIEW THAT JUSTICE DENY THE REQUEST WAS SENT
JUNE 6 (COPY POUCHED TO EMBASSY ATTENTION: POL HOWARD).
TO DATE THE QUESTION HAS NOT ARISEN IN DEPARTMENT'S
NOON PRESS BRIEFING, NOR HAS STATE'S REPLY TO INS BEEN
MADE PUBLIC.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: Q. HECTOR MARROQUIN, A MEXICAN
CITIZEN WHO ENTERED THE U.S. ILLEGALLY AND WHO IS WANTED
BY THE AUTHORITIES IN MEXICO ON CHARGES OF COMPLICITY
IN AN ARMED ROBBERY AND HOMICIDE, HAS REQUESTED POLITICAL
ASYLUM IN THE U.S. IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT GOING TO
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GRANT MARROQUIN'S REQUEST?

A. THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS CONSIDERING HECTOR
MARROQUIN'S POLITICAL ASYLUM REQUEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH
ESTABLISHED REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING ALL SUCH
REQUESTS. UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS MADE A
DETERMINATION ON THE MERITS OF MARROQUIN'S REQUEST, IT

IS INAPPROPRIATE TO COMMENT.

Q. DOES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT BELIEVE THAT HECTOR MARROQUIN WOULD RECEIVE A FAIR TRIAL IN MEXICO IF HE WERE NOT PERMITTED TO REMAIN IN THE U.S.?

A. AS ALREADY STATED, IT IS INAPPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME TO COMMENT ON THE PARTICULARS OF THE MARROQUIN CASE. HOWEVER, ONE OF THE GENERAL FINDINGS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES IN MEXICO IS THAT FAIR PUBLIC TRIALS ARE THE NORM.

Q. HAS THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE RECOMMENDED TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT THAT HECTOR MARROQUIN'S REQUEST FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM BE DENIED?

A. (TO BE USED ONLY IF THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE.) IT IS NOT THE ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO INS IN SUCH MATTERS, BUT TO FURNISH ITS VIEWS OR COMMENTS. BASED ON THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THERE APPEAR TO BE REASONS TO BELIEVE THAT MARROQUIN MAY HAVE COMMITTED SERIOUS NON-POLITICAL CRIMES OUTSIDE OF THIS COUNTRY PRIOR TO HIS ENTRY. ACCORDING-
LY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT HECTOR
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MARROQUIN IS ENTITLED TO SEEK THE PROTECTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES (ARTICLE I-F), NOR THAT HE SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO REMAIN WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, AND HAS SO ADVISED THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. END QUOTE.

VANCE

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